

## BOOK REVIEW

T.M. ANTONIO and S. MASI. 2001. **The Sunflower Family in the Upper Midwest: a Photographic Guide to the Asteraceae in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.** (ISBN 1-883362-11-3, hbk.). Indiana Academy of Science, Indianapolis, in collaboration with Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL, U.S.A. \$50.00, 419 pp, numerous color photos, maps, 7" × 10".

I love this book for the superlative photos and the detailed distribution maps—others may be more interested for the wealth of liberally referenced, genera- and species-specific information included in the species discussions. 150 species are treated, approximately one-half of the family in the Upper Midwest (the region including, by definition, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin). A full-page color photo for each species shows habit and habitat and smaller photos on the facing page provide details. A distribution map for each species gives county-level distribution for the entire region (Appendix VI give references from which the map data are derived). All Asteraceae species of the region are included in a key at the back of the book ("adapted largely from Swink and Wilhelm 1994"—Appendix II), but here is an example of photos good enough to serve for effective species-level identification, relegating the key to adjunct value (for example, compare among species of *Aster*, *Erigeron*, *Eupatorium*, *Lactuca*, and *Liatris*). The Introduction includes background information on recognition of the family, general principles of nomenclature and classification, and habitat and conservation, as well as "Comments on Distribution Maps" and "Comments on Photography" (technical and otherwise: "Waiting for the wind to die down in a midwestern prairie can seem to take an eternity").

In the context of general enthusiasm for this book, my 'technical' side can at least provide a wish-list of features toward a second edition:

(1) **Overview.** Synoptic list of all species of the area and distribution maps for all species – these could be added without accompanying photos and discussions.

(2) **Nomenclature.** How did the authors decide what generic name to use? Readers are referred to other floristic publications "for varying nomenclatural interpretations," but some generic concepts used in the book have been modified within the last decade or longer with varying degrees of acceptance: *Aster* (= *Doellingeria*, *Eurybia*, *Ionactis*, *Symphiotrichum*), *Cacalia* (= *Arnoglossum*), *Chrysopsis* (= *Heterotheca*), *Eupatorium* (= *Ageratina* and *Eupatorium sensu stricto*), *Gnaphalium* (= *Pseudognaphalium*), *Senecio* (= *Packera*) – not even synonyms are provided in the book. For other genera, listed synonyms give notice of potential taxonomic variance: *Chrysanthemum* (AKA *Leucanthemum*), *Kuhnia* (AKA *Brickellia*), *Hymenoxys* (AKA *Actinea*, but not *Tetranneuris* not listed), *Microseris* (AKA *Nothocalais*).

(3) **Arrangement of species.** The species are first arranged within four color classes—White or Green, White with Yellow Centers, Yellow or Yellow with Brown Centers, and Blue, Violet, Rose or Pink—then alphabetically by genus and species. I believe folks interested in Asteraceae, at almost all levels of botanical sophistication, could appreciate the value of placing all species of one genus together and arranging the genera by relationship rather than alphabetically.—Guy L. Nesom, *Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, 76102-4060, U.S.A.*